

With the Plays, Players and the

Famous Play at the Utah.

"The Middleman," by Henry Arthur Jones, a strong emotional drama in four acts, in which E. S. Willard starred several years ago and which created a veritable sensation, will be next week's attraction at the Utah theatre. The play is a complete change from anything yet presented by the Utah company.

It will be interesting news to Utah theatre patrons and to Salt Lake theatregoers generally, to know that an actor who has won a warm place in their hearts by his brilliant work has been cast for the leading role. J. Frank Burke will be seen in the part of Cyrus Blenkarn, the character portrayed by Willard, and it goes without saying that he will add to his personal triumphs in this city. Regina Connell, Ida Due, Fanchon Everhardt, Richard Vivian, Morse Moon, Frank Jonasson and several other Salt Lake favorites have all been cast for parts suited to their talents.

The piece depends largely on the competency of the central figure, the potter, who is working on the problem of a rare combination of colors in clays, which shall produce a perfect piece of pottery and bring wealth and happiness to him and his children. He toils and suffers in silence during the better part of his life, virtually in bondage to the "middleman," who, by clever scheming, gets possession of Blenkarn's secret and makes a fortune, at the same time bringing ruin upon poor Blenkarn.

Chandler, his employer, has a son who takes advantage of one of Blenkarn's daughters and then leaves her. The aged, distracted father, sets to work on another invention in pottery, but his fortunes are at low ebb. He is compelled to burn the furniture in his house, a home in name only, to keep the fire going in the furnace.

The wheel of fortune turns for Blenkarn and against Chandler, the man who has harassed the inventor for years. He is made to feel the pangs of poverty and the wealth he acquired through the inventions of Blenkarn are dissipated and the latter comes into his own. The wrong done his daughter is righted by Captain Chandler, son of the "middleman," and all ends well.

The play is staged under the direction of Gavin Young, who succeeds Dick Ferris as stage director at the Utah. Mr. Young also plays the part of Captain Chandler. Richard Vivian has the role of Jesse Pegg, a Cockney boy, who sticks to Blenkarn through thick and thin. Arthur Morse Moon has been cast for the part of Harry Todd and Frank Jonasson has the part of Joseph Chandler. James Ellis will be seen as Sir Sinton Umpville, Harmon-Weight "doubles" in the parts of Danper and Vachell, and Billy Duane plays the parts of Dutton and the postman.

Regina Connell will portray the



"DICK" VIVIAN
Popular member of Utah Stock Co.

charming character of Nancy Blenkarn, the girl who remains to encourage her tolling father, and Ida Due, a popular Salt Lake actress, will be seen in the part of Mary Blenkarn, the girl who runs away. Fanchon Everhardt has the part of Mrs. Chandler, and Alice Conrad, Lorna Dwyer Russell and Romania Crawford are cast in other female roles.

Empress.

Variety and novelty describes the bill at the Empress this week. The headliner will be Frank Stafford, marvelous whistler and imitator. Mr. Stafford and company will present "The Hunter's Game," featuring two hunting dogs, "Rex" and "Don," that display almost human intelligence.

Every theatre-goer has undoubtedly heard of the king of blackface comedians, Al Herman, who passes the greater part of his time making New York laugh.

Lillian Holmes, a sweet and winsome young woman, will assist the balance of those who go to make up the Empress program in making it one of the best that has appeared here in months.

Broughton and Turner will offer a tuneful oddity, called "Just Landed."

The two were great favorites of the "Red Rose company" and their appearance in vaudeville provides an even fifteen minutes of good, clean amusement.

What will doubtless prove one of the interesting events of the program at the Empress will be the demonstrations of the X-ray by Moffat, Le La Reine and company, who style themselves as "human dynamo," handling high voltage wires as if they were mere whiplashes.

The bill will close with the appearance of W. C. Hoefler in a decided novelty act, as one of the best and cleverest bicycle riders in the country.

The program will be greatly enhanced by the new universal weekly review, which will contain a roster of animated pictures of news events.

For the week following, Hal Stephens, in his famous character scenes; The Melody Monarchs and George E. the Nathal trio, "Broomstick" Elliott and Van Clive, Denton and Pete, will be seen.

"100 Years of Mormonism."

A well-known writer, who, with several friends, was witnessing one of the

big caravan scenes being enacted for the film of "100 Years of Mormonism," wrote the following story of a near-accident which happened during the scene:

A scene which caused the onlookers to draw their breath quickly and Stage Inspector Norval MacGregor to be torn between exultation over the picture he was obtaining and fear for the lives of the participants.

The scene was a river, flooded by the spring thaw and rushing past its banks in a swift current.

Waiting to ford this river was a caravan consisting of hundreds of "prairie schooners" and old-fashioned wagons drawn by teams of oxen. Men in quaint costumes, with rifles across their saddle-bows, rode by the teams, exchanging words of cheer with the anxious-eyed women who peered from beneath the protecting canvas at the new and wonderful country.

Into the stream plunged the leading ox-team and out into the deep water where they were forced to swim. The current was too strong; it swept them off their feet and they bellowed and struggled in fear as the wagon started to overturn. This was no pre-arranged scene; life and death hung in the balance. Women screamed and men dashed into the water. By presence of mind and unusual bravery the driver saved the lives of his fellow actors, the oxen and the wagon, and all the time the steady "click, click," of the camera told that this scene of danger and daring was being caught in every detail by the watchful eye of the lens.

Racing Through Air and Sea.

It has come—the very last word in modern sports—a race between the latest type of crafts to master air and sea.

Just as automobile racing superseded the slower horse racing, the former is now being superseded by speed tests between hydroplanes and motor boats.

The most spectacular and the most exciting event of this kind that has yet taken place was held recently on the coast of Monaco, the most exquisitely beautiful principality on the earth.

The race was between Reneaux, the French hydroplane "speed maniac," and a fleet of the swiftest motorboats, including the famous 800-horsepower Ursula, owned by the Duke of Westminster.

The thrilling event will be reproduced by Lyman H. Howe at the Salt Lake theatre one week, beginning on Monday, July 7th.

It was a death-defying race throughout.

The novelty of it attracted the wealth and fashion of Europe and America. The spectators were composed of the aristocracy of the continent and American multimillionaires. The excitement was intense from the outset. It grew more and more so as the furious drivers pressed their frail